

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

### NOVEMBER CROP PROSPECTS



## LOUISIANA CROP PROSPECTS

The November 1 crop prospects for Louisiana indicate that all major crop yields per acre will be up significantly from last year, with corn, rice, sorghum, and sugarcane setting new record yields, according to Dave Frank, State Statistician for the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service. The following are prospects for the major crops:

**CORN** production is forecast at 52.1 million bushels, up 19 percent from a year ago. Yield per acre at 127 bushels, is up 46 bushels from last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record, when the record book on yield began in 1866.

**COTTON** production is forecast at 870,000 bales, up 20,000 bales from last month, and 229,000 bales above last year. Yield at 702 pounds per acre, up 16 pounds from last month, and 116 pounds above last year.

**RICE** production is forecast at 31.3 million cwt, unchanged from last month, and 11 percent above 1998. Yield per acre is forecast at 5,000 pounds, unchanged from last month, but 470 pounds more than last year. If realized, this would be the highest yield on record.

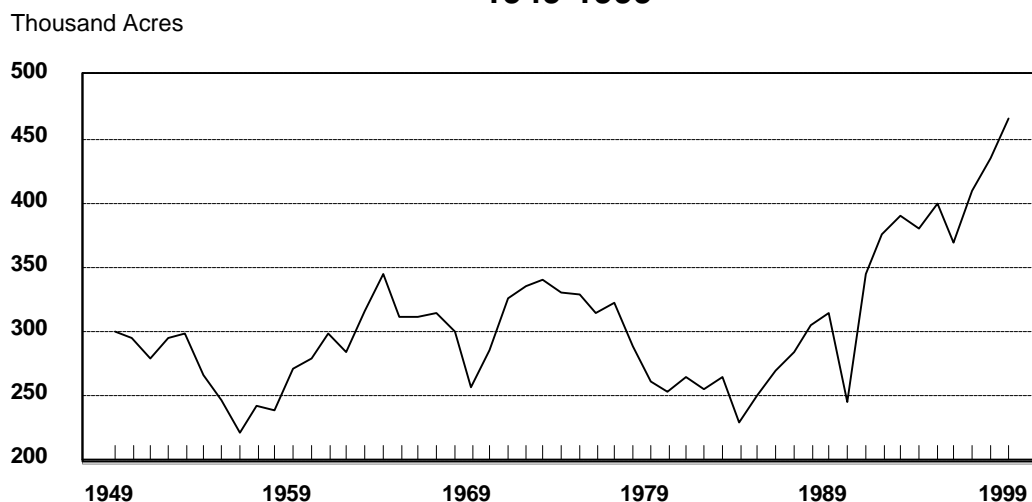
**SORGHUM** production is forecast at 20.0 million bushels, unchanged from last month, compared to 7.5 million bushels last year. Yield is forecast at 80 bushels per acre, unchanged from last month, but up 20 bushels from last year. This would be the highest yield ever recorded in the State.

**SOYBEAN** production is forecast at 25.3 million bushels, unchanged from the October 1 forecast, but up 12 percent from a year ago. Yield, forecast at 25 bushels per acre, is also unchanged from October 1, but 4 bushels more than last year.

**SUGARCANE** production for sugar and seed is forecast at 15.8 million net tons, up 22 percent from 1998. This will be the highest acreage, yield, and production ever recorded in the State. Louisiana now moves ahead of Florida to become the number one State in the United States for sugarcane acreage. Yield per acre is forecast at 34 net tons, up 1 ton from last month, and 4.3 net tons above last year. Recording of acreage, yield, and production began in 1909.

**ALL HAY** production is forecast at 756,000 tons, down 12 percent from August 1 forecast, but 4 percent above 1998. Yield at 2.1 tons per acre is down 0.1 ton from 1998.

## Louisiana Sugarcane Harvested for Sugar and Seed 1949-1999



# NOVEMBER 1 CROP REPORT, WITH COMPARISONS

|                      | Acreage for Harvest      |          | Yield Per Acre |       |       |       | Production          |           |           |
|----------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                      | Final                    | Ind.     |                | Final | Oct.  | Nov.  |                     | Final     | Nov.      |
|                      | 1998                     | 1999     | Unit           | 1998  | 1999  | 1999  | Unit                | 1998      | 1999      |
| <b>LOUISIANA</b>     | -----Thousand acres----- |          |                |       |       |       | -----Thousands----- |           |           |
| Cotton, All          | 525                      | 595      | pounds         | 586   | 686   | 702   | bales 1/            | 641       | 870       |
| Corn, Grain 2/       | 540                      | 410      | bushels        | 81    | 127   | 127   | bushels             | 43,740    | 52,070    |
| Wheat, Winter 2/     | 115                      | 90       | bushels        | 37    | 45    | 45    | bushels             | 4,255     | 4,050     |
| Sorghum, Grain       | 125                      | 250      | bushels        | 60    | 80    | 80    | bushels             | 7,500     | 20,000    |
| Rice                 | 620                      | 625      | pounds         | 4,530 | 5,000 | 5,000 | cwt                 | 28,107    | 31,250    |
| Sugarcane 3/         | 435                      | 465      | net tons       | 29.7  | 33.0  | 34.0  | net tons            | 12,920    | 15,810    |
| Hay, All 2/          | 330                      | 360      | tons           | 2.20  | 2.10  | 2.10  | tons                | 726       | 756       |
| Soybeans, Beans      | 1,070                    | 1,010    | bushels        | 21    | 25    | 25    | bushels             | 22,470    | 25,250    |
| Pecans, Improved 2/  | ---                      | ---      |                | ---   | ---   | ---   | pounds              | 3,000     | 4,000     |
| Pecans, 2/ 4/        | ---                      | ---      |                | ---   | ---   | ---   | pounds              | 13,000    | 14,000    |
| Pecans, All 2/       | ---                      | ---      |                | ---   | ---   | ---   | pounds              | 16,000    | 18,000    |
| <b>UNITED STATES</b> | -----Thousand acres----- |          |                |       |       |       | -----Thousand-----  |           |           |
| Cotton, All          | 10,683.6                 | 13,405.2 | pounds         | 625   | 588   | 592   | bales 1/            | 13,918.2  | 16,530.5  |
| Corn, Grain          | 72,604                   | 70,925   | bushels        | 134.4 | 133.5 | 134.5 | bushels             | 9,761,085 | 9,537,137 |
| Wheat, All 2/        | 63,577                   | 59,211   | bushels        | 39.7  | 43.3  | 43.3  | bushels             | 2,526,552 | 2,564,769 |
| Sorghum, Grain       | 7,723                    | 8,499    | bushels        | 67.3  | 68.3  | 70.1  | bushels             | 519,933   | 595,997   |
| Rice                 | 3,317                    | 3,571    | pounds         | 5,669 | 5,945 | 5,927 | cwt                 | 188,051   | 211,714   |
| Sugarcane 3/         | 947.1                    | 987.2    | net tons       | 36.6  | 37.6  | 38.1  | net tons            | 34,707    | 37,596    |
| Hay, All 2/          | 60,016                   | 62,051   | tons           | 2.52  | ---   | 2.60  | tons                | 151,338   | 161,385   |
| Soybeans, Beans      | 70,441                   | 72,786   | bushels        | 38.9  | 37.0  | 36.7  | bushels             | 2,741,014 | 2,672,972 |
| Pecans, All 2/       | ---                      | ---      |                | ---   | ---   | ---   | pounds              | 146,400   | 323,900   |

1/480 lbs. Net weight. 2/Estimate carried forward from earlier forecast. 3/for sugar and seed. 4/Native and seedling.  
 (—) indicated that estimated is not made.

# U. S. CROP PROSPECTS

**Corn for Grain:** Acreage harvested and to be harvested for grain is forecast at 70.9 million acres, unchanged from last month. The November 1 Corn Objective Yield data indicate a record level ear count for the combined seven objective yield States (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin). The previous record ears per acre was set in 1998. As of October 31, 89 percent of the acreage was harvested in the 17 major States. This compares with 81 percent last year and 72 percent for the 5-year average.

Fields quickly ripened in the Great Plains and northern Corn Belt early in October. Harvest proceeded far ahead of normal in the eastern Corn Belt and advanced well ahead of average in the western Corn Belt. Slow crop development hindered harvest progress in Colorado and Pennsylvania until late in the month, when the harvest pace accelerated.

**Sorghum for Grain:** The final production forecast for the 1999 crop is 596 million bushels, up from the October forecast of 580 million bushels, and 15 percent above the 1998 production of 520 million bushels. The U.S. yield is forecast at 70.2 bushels per acre, up from 68.3 last month, and 2.9 bushels above the 1998 yield. Area harvested and to be harvested was unchanged from October at 8.50 million acres, and up 11 percent from the previous year.

Four States are showing record yields due to favorable weather conditions. These are Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Texas is matching its previous record. Yield estimate for Kansas was up 4 bushels from October because of a late frost which gave late planted sorghum additional time to mature. Illinois and Nebraska increased their yield forecast by 13 bushels and 4 bushels, respectively.

**Rice:** Production is forecast at a record high 212 million cwt, down slightly from October 1, but 13 percent above 1998. The average yield is forecast at 5,929 pounds per acre, down 16 pounds from last month, but up 260 pounds from 1998. Area for harvest is expected to total 3.57 million acres unchanged from October 1, but 8 percent above last year.

The rice production forecast in California declined from last month. Cool weather during pollination and throughout the growing season reduced expected yields to near last year's El Nino affected crop. Yields in Arkansas and Texas increased from last month, while yields in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Missouri remained unchanged from October 1.

**Soybeans:** Growers expect to harvest 72.8 million acres of soybeans, unchanged from the October forecast, but 3 percent above 1998 final harvested acreage. Harvest progress during October advanced at a very fast pace as near ideal conditions prevailed in most areas of the Corn Belt, Great Plains and Delta region. As of October 31, ninety three percent of the soybeans had been harvested, 5 percentage points ahead of 1998, and 7 percentage points ahead of the average.

Soybean harvest was nearing completion across the Corn Belt States. In Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska, harvest was at or above 98 percent complete as of October 31, and was ahead of last year and 5-year average. Harvest in Ohio was 95 percent complete and was lagging behind by 1 percentage point compared to last season. The Missouri harvest was 89 percent complete, 10 percentage points ahead of 1998 harvest, and 13 points ahead of normal. Harvest in Arkansas was 76 percent complete and was progressing at same pace as 1998 and was ahead of normal.

Harvest in Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern States was not as advanced and was running behind the previous year's pace. Wet conditions during October slowed crop maturity and harvest progress in these States.

In the seventeen non-objective yield States that make yield forecasts in November, four States reduced yields from October while five States had increases. Yields were decreased 2 bushels in Georgia and 1 bushel in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Wisconsin. Yields were increased 2 bushels in North Dakota and Tennessee and 1 bushel in Kansas, Mississippi, and Virginia.

If realized, pod counts from the October Objective Yield survey will be the highest on record in Iowa and Nebraska. All other objective yield States, except for Minnesota, were showing fewer pods than last November and 1998 final counts.

**Cotton:** Upland cotton harvested acreage, at 13.1 million acres, is unchanged from the October forecast and up 25 percent from last year. American-Pima harvested acreage, at 309,200 acres is also unchanged from October, and 32 percent above 1998. As of November 7, U.S. harvest was 72 percent complete, 4 percentage points behind 1998, but 2 points ahead of the 5-year average.

The development of cotton was slowed early in October on the Texas Plains due to cool temperatures and widely scattered showers. However, harvest was able to begin on some early planted fields. Harvest continued to expand throughout October as some growers sprayed to aid in harvest activities rather than waiting for a hard freeze. Brief harvest delays were experienced in some areas of the High Plains due to showers and light snow. These showers should have alleviated any potential stickiness problems. On October 31, forty-six percent of the cotton acreage was harvested. This was 2 percentage points behind the 5-year average. Objective yield data indicate Texas' large boll counts are ranked ninth in the past ten years, and boll weights are ranked eighth. In Oklahoma, harvest made great strides during the second half of October. On October 31, sixty-four percent of the acreage was harvested, 25 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

The Delta States (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee) experienced excellent weather throughout the month of October. The weather has resulted in harvest progressing well ahead of average. As of October 31, all five States were well above 90 percent harvested. Arkansas was 15

percent ahead of average at 94 percent harvested. Louisiana reported 99 percent harvested, 7 points ahead of the 5-year average. Mississippi, at 97 percent harvested, was 10 percentage points ahead of average. Missouri and Tennessee both reported 96 percent of their cotton acreage harvested on October 31, twenty-one and 20 points ahead of the 5-year average, respectively. Data from objective yield surveys show large boll counts for Arkansas ranked seventh, and Mississippi's ranked fourth, since 1990. Louisiana's number of large bolls are ranked fifth during this time period. Boll weights in Arkansas and Mississippi were the lowest in the last 10 years, while Louisiana's weight was ranked as the ninth lowest out of the last ten years.

Rainy weather and muddy fields resulted in some harvest delays in the Southeastern States (Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina), especially in North Carolina. As of October 31, North Carolina reported only 24 percent of their cotton acreage harvested. This compared to 55 percent for the 5-year average. Conversely, Alabama managed to remain 11 percent ahead of average at 77 percent harvested. Georgia and South Carolina both remained near average, with Georgia four points ahead of their 5-year average at 57 percent harvested and South Carolina four points behind their 5-year average at 51 percent harvested.

**Sugarcane:** U. S. Sugarcane production is forecast at a record high 37.6 million tons, 8 percent above the previous record of 34.7 million tons set last year. U.S. sugarcane growers intend

to harvest a record high 987,500 acres for sugar and seed during the 1999 crop year, 4 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. The record high acreage is due to a 30,000 acre expansion in Louisiana and a 9,000 acre increase in Florida. Yield is forecast at 38.1 tons per acre, 1.5 tons above 1998.

In Florida, Hurricane Irene's strong wind blew some cane over and its heavy rains halted harvest long enough to stop grinding at some mills. Harvest proceeded rapidly in Louisiana, where a record high yield is expected due to ideal growing conditions, expanded acreage of a high yielding hybrid, and increased utilization of a more efficient harvester. In Hawaii, harvest was delayed by mid-month rains, but most of the crop had already been harvested.#

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